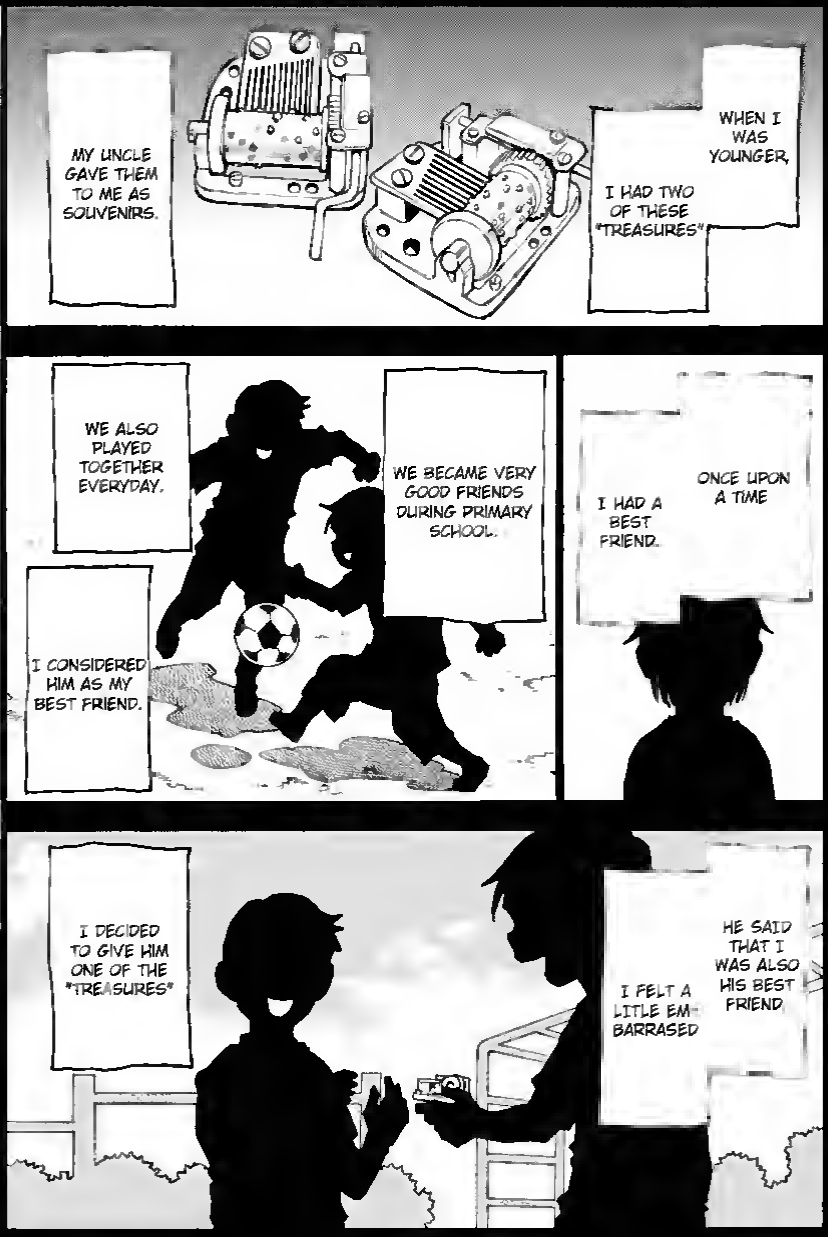
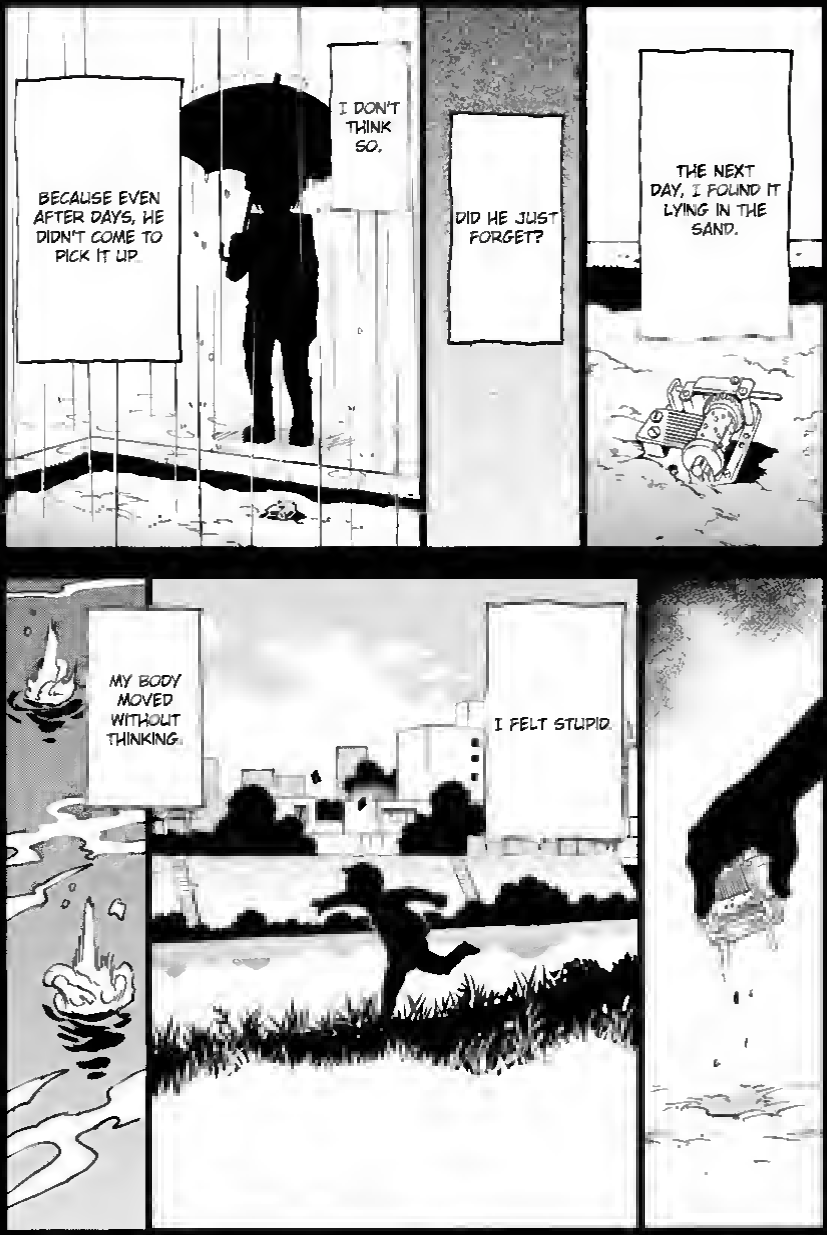
■ Memories that I can barely remember... What do they mean!?


WHEN I WAS YOUNGER,
I HAD TWO OF THESE "TREASURES"
MY UNCLE GAVE THEM TO ME AS SOUVENIRS.
ONCE UPON A TIME
I HAD A BEST FRIEND.
WE BECAME VERY GOOD FRIENDS DURING PRIMARY SCHOOL.
WE ALSO PLAYED TOGETHER EVERYDAY.
I CONSIDERED HIM AS MY BEST FRIEND.
HE SAID THAT I WAS ALSO HIS BEST FRIEND
I FELT A LITLE EMBARRASED
I DECIDED TO GIVE HIM ONE OF THE "TREASURES"


BECAUSE EVEN AFTER DAYS, HE DIDN'T COME TO PICK IT UP.
I DON'T THINK SO.
DID HE JUST FORGET?
THE NEXT DAY, I FOUND IT LYING IN THE SAND.
MY BODY MOVED WITHOUT THINKING.
I FELT STUPID.

HAPPINESS AND SADNESS.

SUCCESS AND FAILURE. I WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO MY STORY ABOUT THEM.

僕だけがいない街Re

BOKU DAKE GA INAI MACHI

SCANLATED BY: PICO MANGA

【小林賢也（前編）】

コミックス①～⑧巻絶賛発売中！

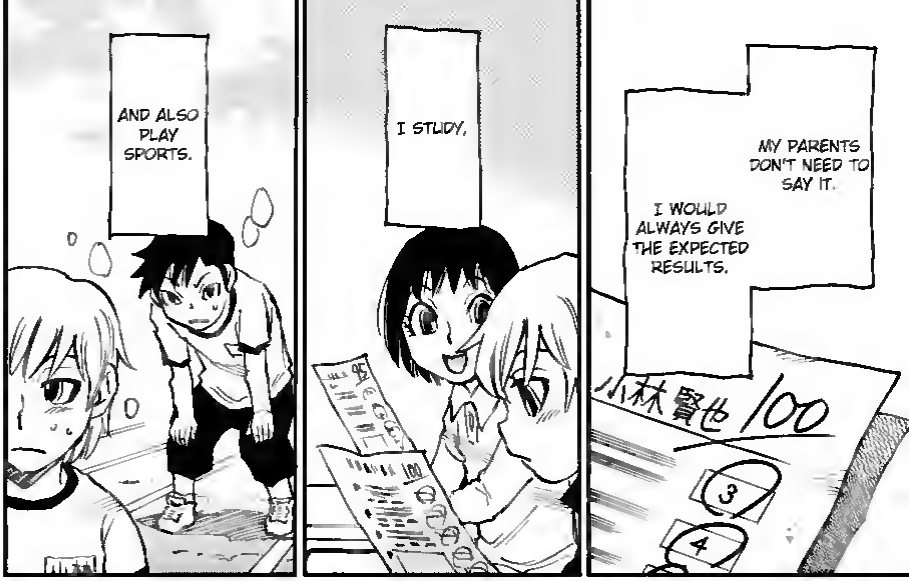
三部けい Presented by Kei Sanbe

MY FATHER IS A LAWYER,
AND MY MOTHER IS A HOUSE-WIFE.
I ALSO HAVE A FIVE-YEAR-OLD SISTER WHICH WAS DISTANT FROM ME
WE'RE A FAMILY OF FOUR.
MY—
KENYA KOBAYASHI'S— FAMILY IS COM-PARATIVELY WEALTHY.

AT THAT TIME, WHY WAS I CAPTIVATED BY "HIM"?
THE PROTAGONIST OF THE SECOND CHAPTER IS NO OTHER THAN KENYA!

MY TIME AT HOME WAS OCCUPIED WITH STUDIES EXCEPT AT DINNER.
HE GOES TO WORK AND GOES BACK HOME ON TIME.
MY FATHER IS ALWAYS OUT FOR WORK.
I RESPECT HIM.
MY FATHER WORKS FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYONE.
WHENEVER HE SAYS A WORD TO ME,
I LISTEN
ALTHOUGH WE RARELY TALK WITH EACH OTHER,

MY MOTHER DIDN'T REALLY INTERFERE.
I TAKE CARE OF MY SISTER SO I'D BE NOTICED.
STUDYING WAS VOLUNTARY HOUSE-WORK.
"I DON'T WEAR BETTER CLOTHES THAN THIS," SHE SAYS.
HER CLOTHES WERE ALWAYS PLAIN AND CHEAP.
BECAUSE OF HER GENTLE PERSONALITY, SHE RARELY GETS MAD
MY MOTHER TREATS PEOPLE EQUALLY.
IF MY MOTHER HAS NO INTEREST IN BEING FASHION-ABLE, THEN SO BE IT.
BUT THEY'RE NOT REALLY AGAINST IT.
IT MAKES HER PARENTS WORRY,


AND ALSO PLAY SPORTS.
I STUDY.
MY PARENTS DON'T NEED TO SAY IT.
I WOULD ALWAYS GIVE THE EXPECTED RESULTS.
小林賢也 100
3
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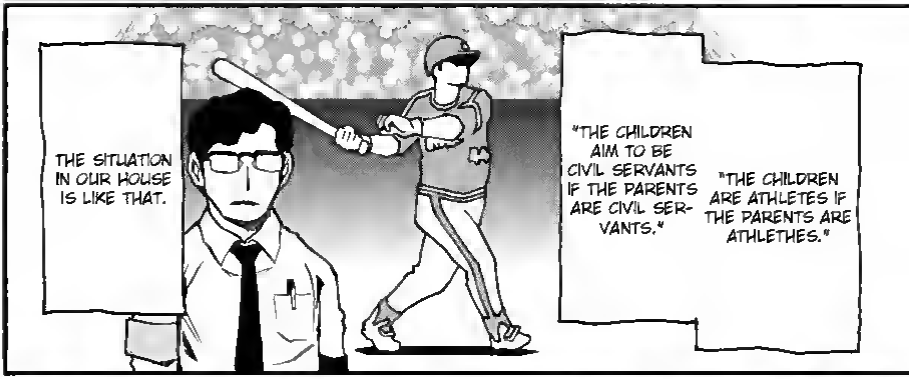
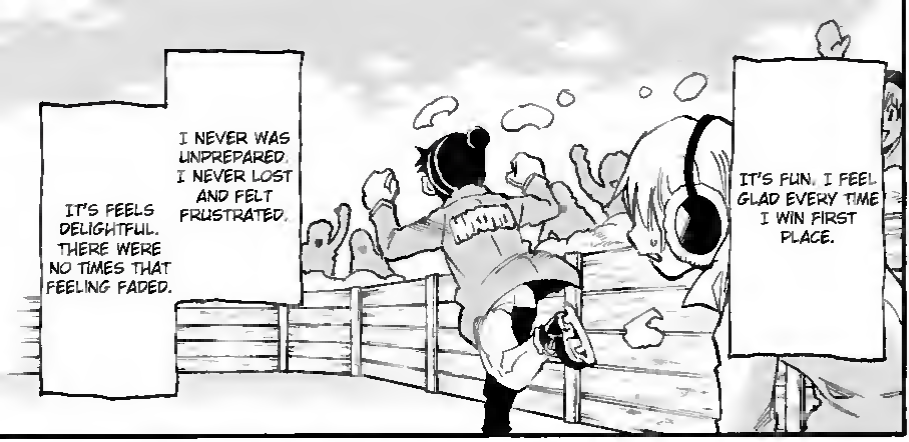
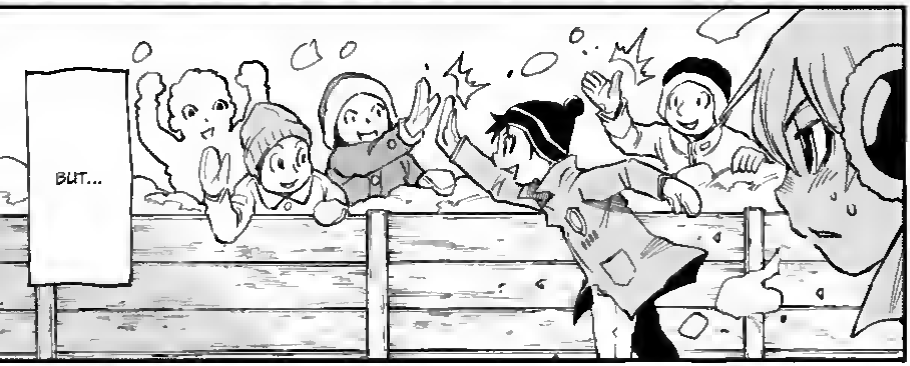

THE SITUATION IN OUR HOUSE IS LIKE THAT.
"THE CHILDREN AIM TO BE CIVIL SERVANTS IF THE PARENTS ARE CIVIL SERVANTS."
"THE CHILDREN ARE ATHLETES IF THE PARENTS ARE ATHLETHES."

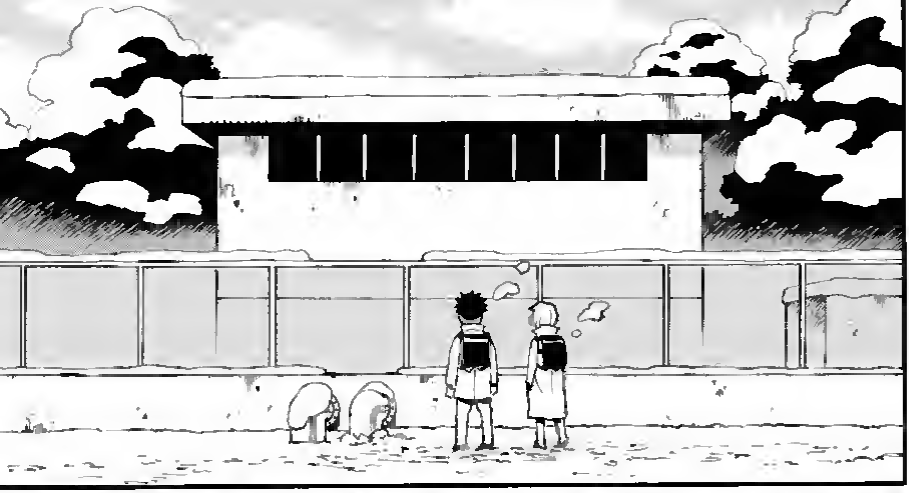
I'M SPECIAL.
I'M SURE NO ONE ELSE IN MY CLASS CAN DO THAT.
I DECIDED BE A LAWYER, LIKE MY FATHER.
I WILL SURELY PASS THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
MABOTA
60


IT'S FEELS DELIGHTFUL. THERE WERE NO TIMES THAT FEELING FADED.
I NEVER WAS UNPREPARED. I NEVER LOST AND FELT FRUSTRATED.
IT'S FUN. I FEEL GLAD EVERY TIME I WIN FIRST PLACE.

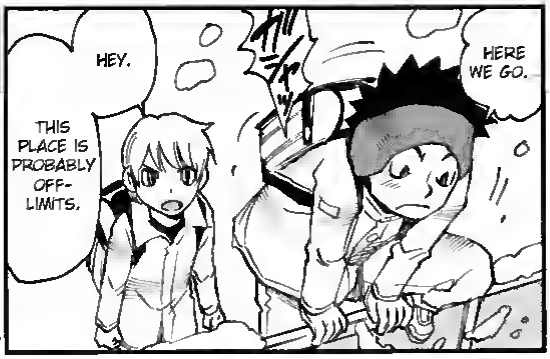

BUT...

I'M JEALOUS
...OR AM I JUST WEAK.
AHH, I LOST..
HE WON TWICE!
KENYA IS SO COOL!
...IT'S SUPPOSED TO COME AFTER THE JOY OF VICTORY.
LET'S GO.
I NEVER WANT TO RACE WITH KENYA.
WOAH, HE'S FAST.
A PRODIGY..
THIS HOLLOW FEELING IS...
WHAT IS IT?

NICE SKATING!
KENYA!
YAY!
すー、
すー、
KENYA...
JUST FOR A WHILE...
..PLEASE?
.....



OH, C'MON! I'M SURE IT'LL BE FINE.


HEY.
THIS PLACE IS PROBABLY OFF-LIMITS.
HERE WE GO.

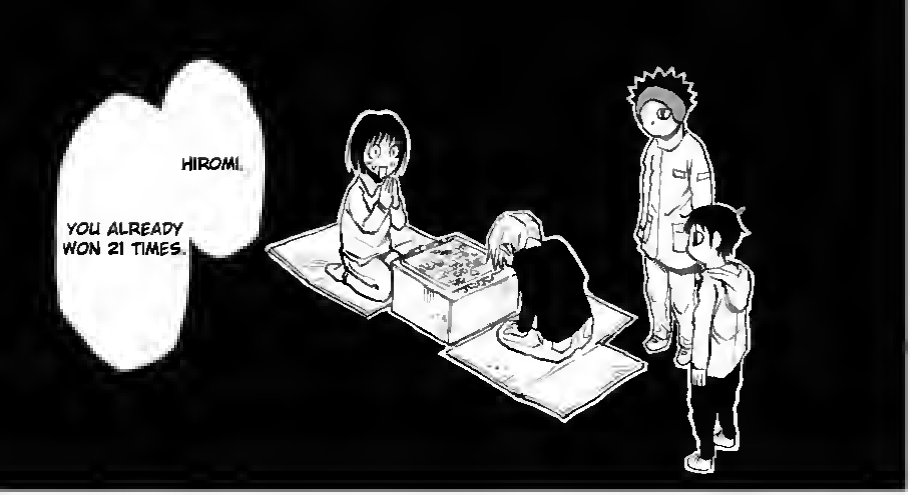
WHAT DID YOU SAY...?
WE'RE FRIENDS, AREN'T WE?
AUTHORIZED PERSONS ONLY
KENYA,
...YOU...

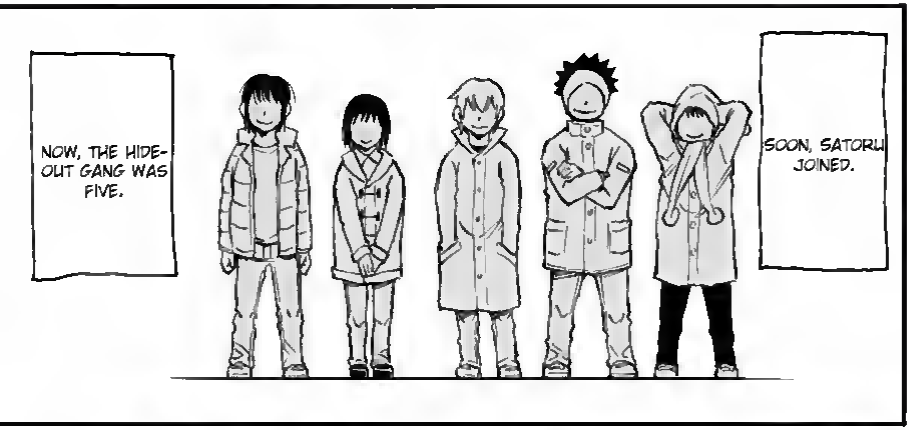
YOU MEAN THAT NO ONE WILL COME HERE EVEN IF THEY SEE US?
WELL... FINE THEN!

KEEP THIS A SECRET BETWEEN US.
IT'S OUR HIDEOUT!
NEVER TELL ANYONE ELSE.
MEET THE NEW GUY, KENYA!
YO!
AHH!
KENYA-KUN!
WE WELCOME YOU.
...TO OUR HIDEOUT!

HIDEOUT...?
KAZU AND I ARE ON A 20-GAME LOSING STREAK BECAUSE OF HIM!
HEY, COME HERE!
CAN YOU BEAT HIROMI?
HOW CAN THEY TRUST ME?
WHAT THE...
SO WHAT DO YA SAY?
RIGHT?
...SPRIT.
..IS OUR...
BECAUSE THIS HIDEOUT..
KEEP IT A SECRET FROM ADULTS.
I SEE.
THAT'S...
REALLY?

I'LL JUST PLAY ALONG ANYWAYS.
WHAT AM I DOING?
WHAT IS IT, KENYA?
YOU AFRAID?
H-HEY, WAIT!
SIT HERE!
C'MON, HURRY UP!
I'LL MAKE SURE TO BEAT HIROMI.
飛車
SURE, I'LL PLAY WITH YOU.
BRING IT ON!
OKAY?
PLEASE GO EASY ON ME~


HIROMI.
YOU ALREADY WON 21 TIMES.


NOW, THE HIDE-OUT GANG WAS FIVE.
SOON, SATORU JOINED.

I CAME TO KNOW SATORU IN ONE MONTH.
WE BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS, BUT IT SEEMED THAT. .
..HE DIDN'T LIKE SEEING STRANGERS.
I THOUGHT HE WAS SIMILAR TO ME.
AT THAT TIME, I CHANGED LITTLE BY LITTLE.

HE'S A FINE GUY.
I'M SURE THERE'S SOMETHING GOOD TO REALIZE IN HIM.
HE RUNS FAST.
HE SAYS IT'S BECAUSE HE DOESN'T HAVE A BICYCLE.
HIS GRADES IN CLASS WERE AVERAGE.

I STILL LOOK DOWN AT OTHERS, BUT...

EVERYONE HAS QUALITIES I DON'T.
HIROMI'S KINDNESS EXTENDS TO ALL OF US.
OSAMU IS SHY AND GENTLE
KAZU CAN TAKE ACTION IN AN HONEST AND DIRECT MANNER.
IT'S JUST THAT...

THIS IS WHAT I LEARNED FROM THEM :
"I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SPECIAL."

市立美琴小学
IT WAS AROUND FIFTH-GRADE'S WINTER BREAK.
I HAVE A CLASSMATE WHO'S ALWAYS BY HERSELF.
I FELT UNCOMFORTABLE SEEING HER LIKE THAT.
HER NAME WAS HINAZUKI KAYO.
SHE HAD BRUISES ALL AROUND HER BODY.
I CAN TELL THAT SHE'S BEING ABUSED AT HOME.
SHE HAD NO FRIENDS. SHE NEVER TALKS WITH ANYONE.
SHE LOOKED LIKE YOUR AVERAGE STUDENT. NO ONE ELSE NOTICED HER ASIDE FROM ME
YASHIRO-SENSEI. I WONDER, ARE YOU AWARE OF THIS?

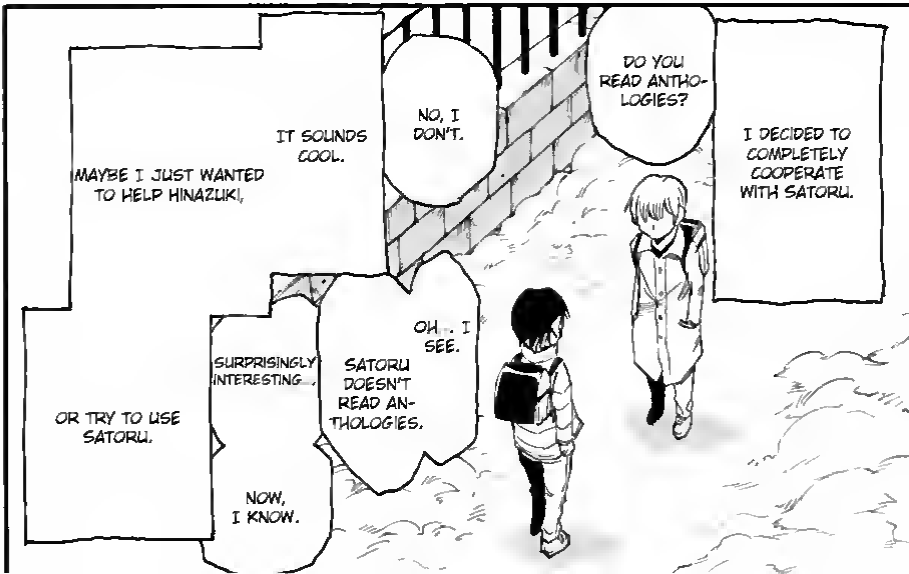
I'LL CONTACT THE CHILD CONSULTATION CENTER SO THAT THEY CAN PUT AN END TO IT.
I WANT TO CONFIRM IF SHE'S BEING ABUSED. IF SHE IS,
YASHIRO-SENSEI?
DID YOU NOT NOTICE,

BUT I'LL DO WHAT I COULD.
I CAN'T BE OF MUCH HELP,

SHE'LL FIND HERSELF CONFINED. SHE'LL STAY FRUSTRATED.
YASHIRO-SENSEI, WHY AREN'T YOU ACTING?
SHE WOULD STILL BE ABUSED.
HINAZUKI WILL REMAIN LIKE THAT...
WINTER VACATION IS STARTING...

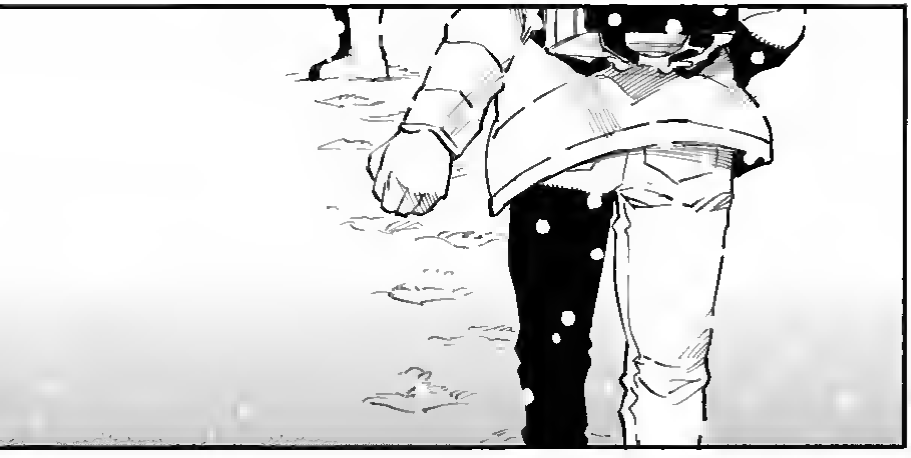
BUT ONE DAY,
I NOTICED THAT SATORU WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HINAZUKI.
SATORU...
DO YOU LIKE HINAZUKI?
DURING OUR BREAK,
I ASKED SATORU EVERYONE WAS THERE, SO I HAD TO OBSCURE HINAZUKI'S ABUSE.
FOR ABOUT HALF A MINUTE, I OBSERVED SATORU. I JUDGED HIM AFTERWARDS.
MY QUESTION WAS HALF SERIOUS.

SATORU DIDN'T HAVE ROMANTIC FEELINGS FOR HINAZUKI.


DO YOU READ ANTHOLOGIES?
NO, I DON'T.
I DECIDED TO COMPLETELY COOPERATE WITH SATORU.
IT SOUNDS COOL.
MAYBE I JUST WANTED TO HELP HINAZUKI,
OR TRY TO USE SATORU.
SURPRISINGLY INTERESTING...
OH... I SEE.
SATORU DOESN'T READ ANTHOLOGIES.
NOW, I KNOW.

IT WAS SOMETHING BEYOND
MY COMPREHENSION.

SATORU HAD NO RELATIONSHIP
WITH HINAZUKI,



AND YET HE TRIED TO HELP HER.

IN ORDER TO PREVENT ABUSE, HE INVITED HER TO THE SCIENCE CENTER.
I ALSO BELIEVED IN HINAZUKI.
SATORU CONTINUED IN AN ENTHUSIASTIC MANNER OF APPROACH.

LOOKING AT HOW SATORU CAN TAKE ACTION, I WAS ASHAMED OF MYSELF.

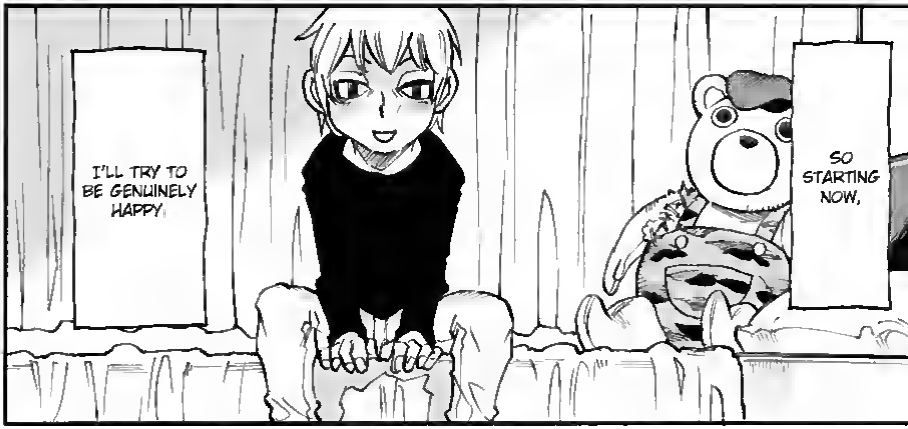
ACTUALLY, I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS A *LITTLE* CHILDISH.
THIS "HIDEOUT" THING.
BUT WE THOUGHT IT WAS CHILDISH.
ALL OF US ENJOYED PLAYING WITH EACH OTHER.

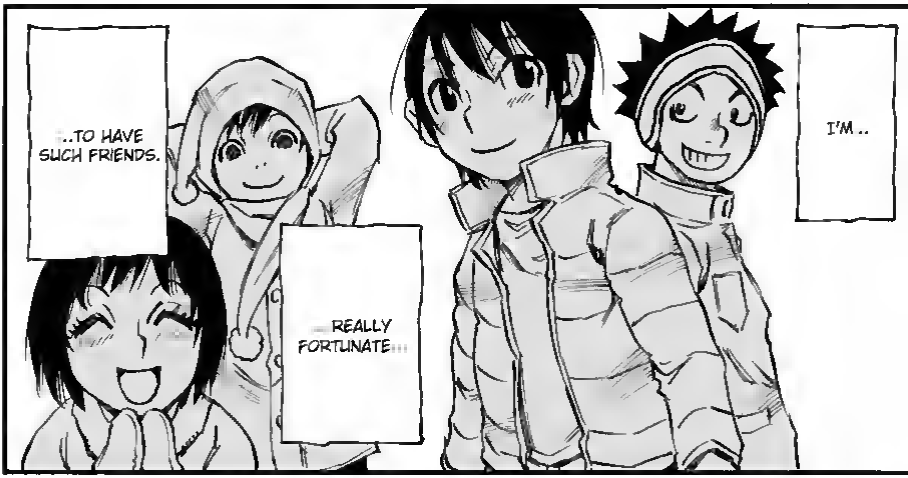
I WAS ONLY PRETENDING TO BE MATURE, ANYWAYS.

I THOUGHT THAT STAYING AWAY FROM DANGER WOULD MAKE ME HAPPY.

I FELT LONELY. I DIDN'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO HOLD THE FRUSTATION IN. I JUST WANTED TO CRY AND FORGET ABOUT IT.

SATORU HAD PREPARED HIS FEELINGS.
UNLIKE HIM, I WAS UNPREPARED.

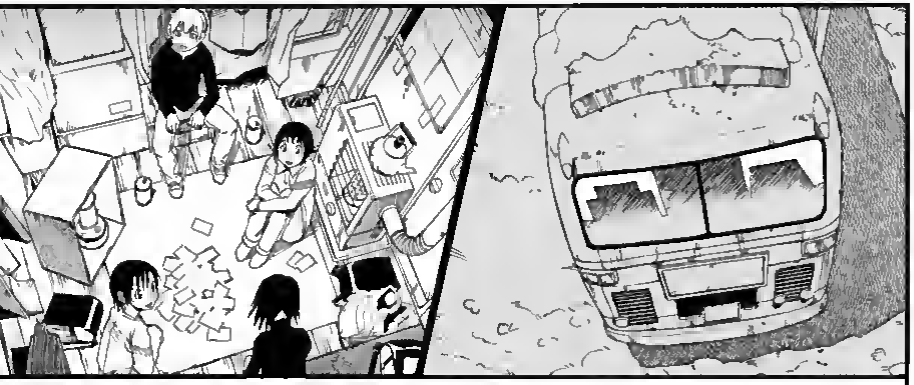




ALL I WANTED WAS TO HAVE "FRIENDS"!

EVEN IF IT WAS JUST TO SATORU,
I WAS ABLE TO BE STRAIGHTFORWARD.

EVEN IF IT WAS JUST
TO SATORU, I WAS ABLE
TO SAY WHAT I THOUGHT HONESTLY.



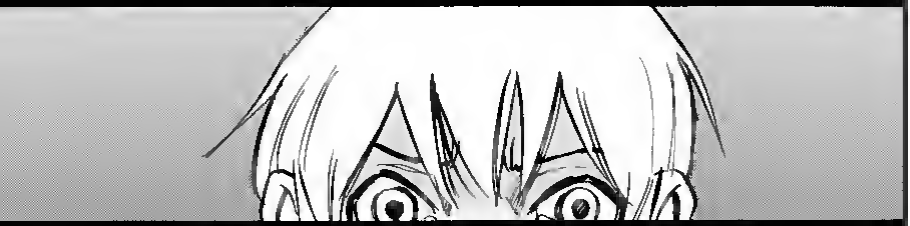
I WAS ABLE TO FEEL
EVERYONE'S KINDNESS.

EVERY DAY, THERE WAS SOMETHING NEW TO TREASURE.
IT MAY LACK IN DECISION, GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE INCIDENT...
...BUT I STILL WENT ON AN ADVENTURE WITH SATORU.
IT WAS FUN.
こんこん
カタン
キィ

I'LL SPARE YOU FOR NOW.
BUT IF YOU DO IT AGAIN,
I WON'T HESITATE TO JUDGE YOU.
I SLOWLY PREPARED.
BUT STILL, SATORU WAS MORE PREPARED THAN ME
I'D CONTINUE
TO PURSUE.
UNTIL THAT DAY...

THE SHINING DAYS SUDDENLY ENDED.

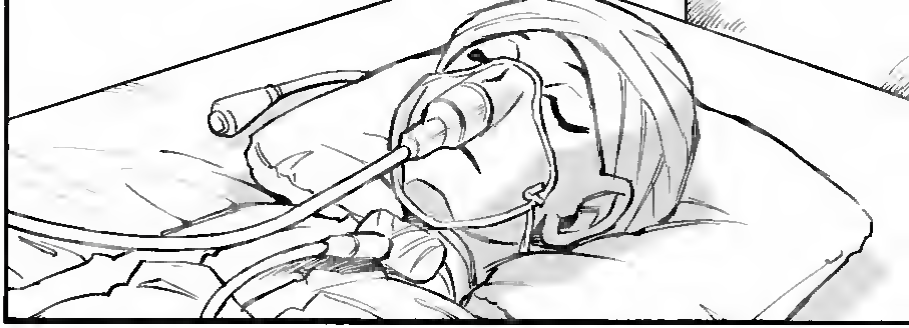
IT WAS LIKE LIGHT IN A ROOM THAT WAS UNEXPECTEDLY SWITCHED OFF.



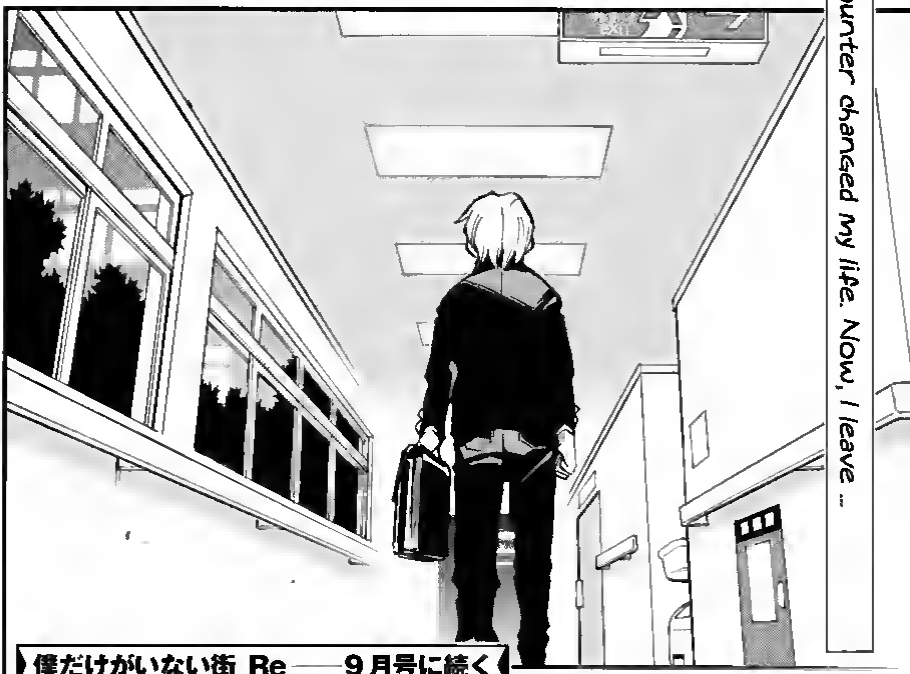
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.

I LOST SIGHT OF WHO I AM.

BUT RIGHT NOW... LET ME DO THIS MUCH.
SATORU.
MY MOTHER WILL MAKE DINNER SOON.
I NEED TO GO HOME.
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING...
休職事



■That encounter changed my life. Now, I leave ...



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